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# PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q54505

Hitoshi MATSUMOTO, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/318,268

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: 1128

Examiner: Blaise L. MOUTTET

Filed: May 25, 1999

For: INK CARTRIDGE, INK-JET PRINTING APPARATUS, AND REFILLING  
DEVICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/318,268

Attorney Docket No. Q54505

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

1. Japanese Patent No. 09-309213 issued on December 2, 1997 corresponds to US Patent No. 5,699,091 issued on December 16, 1997, which was previously disclosed in an Information Disclosure Statement dated May 2, 2001.

2. Japanese Patent No. 4-500482 issued on January 30, 1992 corresponds to US Patent No. 5,365,312 issued on November 15, 1994.

3. Japanese Patent No. 6-191055 issued on July 12, 1994 corresponds to US Patent No. 6,604,510 issued on April 2, 1996.

Applicant notes that Japanese Patent No. 6-126981 issued on May 10, 1994 was previously disclosed in an Information Disclosure Statement dated August 17, 1999 and corresponds to US Patent No. 5,519,418 issued on May 21, 1996.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

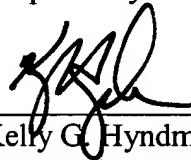
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 5, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/318,268
		Confirmation Number	1128
		Filing Date	May 25, 1999
		First Named Inventor	Hitoshi MATSUMOTO
		Art Unit	2853
		Examiner Name	Blaise L. MOUTTET
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	Q54505

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 5,699,091	A	12-16-1997	Bullock et al.
		US 5,365,312	A	11-15-1994	Hillmann et al.
		US 5,504,510	A	04-02-1996	Miyakawa
		US 5,519,418	A	05-21-1996	Nishikawa et al.
		US			
		US			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	6-320732	A	11-22-1994	Canon Inc.	Yes
		JP	9-309213	A	12-2-1997		Corresponds to US 5,699,091
		JP	4-500482	A	1-30-1992		Corresponds to US 5,365,312
		JP	8-238824	A	09-17-1996	Canon Inc.	Yes
		JP	6-191055	A	07-12-1994		Corresponds to US 5,504,510
		JP	8-174863	A	07-09-1996	Ricoh Co. Ltd.	Yes
		JP	6-126981	A	05-10-1994		Corresponds to US 5,519,418
		JP	9-300645	A	11-25-1997	Oki Data:KK	Yes
		JP	10-109431	A	04-28-1998	Seiko Epson Corp.	Yes
		JP	9-314861	A	12-09-1997	Canon Inc.	Yes

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.